1	2	3	4	5	6	7
20.	Pondicherry*	–	–	–	8	13
21.	Punjab	6	12	17	19	12
22.	Rajasthan	1	4	4	4	3
23	Sikkim	6	14	12	3	5
24.	Tamil Nadu	3	1	1	1	4
25.	Tripura	15	14	19	14	16
26.	U.P.	5	7	2	1	6
27.	West Bengal	19	17	14	21	22

* Delhi and Pondichery are also ranked since 1995-96 onwards.

Acupuncture System

2370. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1305 dated March 3, 1997 regarding Acupuncture System and state :

(a) whether the requisite information has since been collected so far;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Following a large number of proposals for recognition of Acupuncture, Government have decided to set up a Committee of Experts to examine the issues relating to alternative therapies including Acupuncture.

(c) Does not arise.

Roster System of Reservation

2371. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether roster indicating reservation for SC/ST employees in various grades in his Ministry are not being maintained as per the guidelines issued by Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms;

(b) whether a large number of posts meant for SC/ ST employees have been denied to them.

(c) whether these Rosters have not been signed by Liaison Officers in his Ministry; and

(d) if so, the action Government propose to take against those officers who have not implemented the reservation policy in his Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Rosters are being maintained as per the guidelines issued by the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms.

(b) No Sir, the Ministry of External Affairs is following the relevant guidelines issued by the Department of Personnel subject to the Hon'ble Central Administrative Tribunal's directive to this Ministry contained in decision on OA No. 405/96 on 5th June, 1996 for computing vacancies.

(c) The rosters are examined by the Liaison Officer from time to time but his signing them has not been insisted upon. However, as a further measure, the same will be ensured in future. The rosters are also accessible to any employee interested to see them.

(d) There is no question of not implementing the Government's policy on reservation. Any lapse will be suitably dealt with, as per the rules.

[Translation]

Population Control Measures

2372. SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of population control and family planning measures taken at the world level and the role of India therein;

(b) the number of women who terminate pregnancy and the number of couples who use contraceptives in the country as per the survey conducted by the Council;

(c) the salient features of the present reproduction health programme package; and

(d) the reaction of the Government to the increasing foeticide?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Since the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994, several national Governments are reported to have made progress in implementing the Programme Action adopted at the said Conference. India has adopted the 'Reproductive and Child Health' approach to its Family Welfare Programme, in accordance with the Programme of Action.

(b) 5.66 lakh women are reported to have undergone medical termination of pregnancy in the year